

HOUSE BILL 2042

By McCord

AN ACT to amend Chapter 102 of the Private Acts of 1979; as amended by Chapter 23 of the Private Acts of 1983; Chapter 181 of the Private Acts of 1988; Chapter 26 of the Private Acts of 1993 and Chapter 17 of the Private Acts of 2003; and any other acts amendatory thereto, relative to authorizing hotel-motel and campground taxes in Blount County.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Section 2 is amended by deleting the language and figures "four percent (4%)" and by substituting instead the language and figures "five percent (5%)".

SECTION 2. Section 10 is amended by deleting it in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

Section 10. The proceeds from the tax levied herein shall be retained by the county government and distributed as follows:

(a) Eighty percent (80%) of the tax shall be apportioned as follows:

(1) Fifty percent (50%) of the proceeds shall be assessed for the direct promotion of tourism, and shall be held by the county trustee for payment to the tourist commission according to its budgeted expenditures.

(2) Twelve and one-half percent (12-½%) of the proceeds shall be assessed for the construction, maintenance, staffing and supplying the Townsend Visitors Center at 7906E. Lamar Alexander Parkway and other such centers as required by the tourist commission.

(3) Thirty seven and one-half percent (37-½%) of the proceeds shall be deposited in the general fund of Blount County.

(b) Twenty per cent (20%) of the tax shall be used to purchase the ten (10) plus acres located directly adjacent to the Townsend Visitors Center. This portion may be used for all related expenses related to this purchase, including any debt related charges such as principal and interest in relation to the purchase of said property. Once said piece of property is fully paid for, this twenty percent (20%) shall be used entirely for the promotion of tourism.

(c) In the event that the amounts stated in Section 10(b) above are not enough to amortize said expenses related to the purchase of the described land, then amounts shall be taken from the remaining eighty percent (80%) described in Section 10(a) until said payments are made in full and the split described in Section 10(a) will be in force for the remaining portion of proceeds of tax.

SECTION 2. This act shall have no effect unless it is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the legislative body of Blount County. Its approval or nonapproval shall be proclaimed by the presiding officer of the legislative body and certified to the secretary of state.

SECTION 3. For the purpose of approving or rejecting the provisions of this act, it shall be effective upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, it shall become effective as provided in Section 2.